

**Department of Public Works and Transportation
Montgomery County, Maryland**

DIVISION OF SOLID WASTE SERVICES



Children at NOAA's Bright Horizons Day Care Center watch a video on recycling during a recycling presentation conducted by SORRT team member, Christopher Jones.

***MONTHLY REPORT
JANUARY 2003***



Printed on Recycled and Recyclable Paper

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OVERVIEW

Tonnage at a Glance

The following table shows key material flows during the current month, fiscal year to date (FY Total), and current calendar month in the two prior fiscal years. (County fiscal year 2003 began July 1, 2002.)

FACILITY	Jan FY 03	FY 03 Total	Jan FY 02	Jan FY 01
Materials Recovery Facility ⁽¹⁾	7,309 tons	51,132 tons	6,943 tons	7,093 tons
Brunswick Landfill Facility ⁽²⁾	15,252 tons	135,333 tons	19,378 tons	9,410 ⁽⁴⁾ tons
Resource Recovery Facility ⁽³⁾	43,389 tons	357,596 tons	55,998 tons	41,013 tons
Yard Trim Compost Facility	6,518 tons	50,454 tons	716 tons	69 tons

⁽¹⁾MRF tons reported are outgoing.

⁽²⁾This category only addresses waste sent to the landfill for disposal. It does not include rubble that is recycled.

⁽³⁾RRF tonnage refers to tons burned (processed). Waste shipped from the Transfer Station but not burned is in the pit and is not included in the tonnage presented here.

⁽⁴⁾ Does not include 3,173 tons of ash sent to American Ash Recycling pilot program in January 2001.

Revenue Analysis and Systems Evaluation – During January, program staff:

- Researched 429 new properties billing characteristics and entered into database;
- Researched 5 inquires regarding solid waste fees on the property tax bill;
- Processed 4 vacancy refunds and received 8 new vacancy refund requests;
- Prepared monthly update of collection service house counts;
- Updated street listing maps;
- Continued to research solid waste fee abnormalities in the property tax database;
- Processed 12 billing correction changes in the TXA 170 system;
- Continued analysis on nonresidential properties to support new charge rates;
- Continued research and analysis on Montgomery County GFA for future billing;
- Reconciled the first 6 months of FY03 tons to the monies posted in FAMIS, as well as to the total dollars charged in Paradigm; procedures have been put in place for the future so it will be a standard step-by-step process every 6 months;
- Continued to assist with improvements of internal cash controls for Transfer Station management;
- Began process of reconciling Transfer Station Recycling revenue reports with revenue posted in FAMIS;
- Completed processing remaining appeals;
- Mailed collector/hauler tonnage report forms, due February 1st;

- Mailed invoices for all tons accepted at TS on credit accounts during December;
- Balanced Hauler Billing System to FAMIS exactly and prepared journal entries for Finance;
- Worked with several individual haulers on various problems;
- Set up one new hauler credit account and fielded inquiries from new haulers;
- Processed 15 corrections to Transfer Station data;
- Conducted analyses related to rate setting and management issues;
- Assisted, as needed, with the ongoing solid waste revenue bond refinancing project; and otherwise
- Assisted, as needed, with budget processes.

CITIZEN COMMITTEES

Facilities Implementation Group – FIG met on January 14^h at the Gothic Barn. Fourteen FIG Members, four County staff, three contract staff and one area resident were in attendance. Topics discussed included the Chairman's report on the November meeting with the County Executive, the draft Waste Disposal Permit and the comments from the Subcommittee on the draft Cultural Resources Interpretation Plan.

The next FIG meeting will be held March 11, 2003, at the Gothic Barn. Topics on the agenda include comments on the draft Waste Disposal Permit and facility updates.

Solid Waste Advisory Committee – SWAC met Tuesday, January 7th. Ten SWAC members, three County staff and four guests were in attendance. SWAC's meeting with the County Executive has been rescheduled for Tuesday, February 11th. SWAC received a presentation from DEP staff on the County-wide Ground Water Protection Strategy.

COLLECTIONS

Refuse – Refuse collections went as scheduled for the month of January 2003. There was a holiday slide for the New Year's Day Holiday and a working holiday on January 20th; (Martin Luther King's Birthday) all collections went well.

Contractor Performance – During the month of January 2003, DSWS received 641 complaints; 221 more complaints than January 2002. Waste Management has had serious problems with new drivers and TRC's new sub-contractor collecting yard waste resulted in many of the increased complaints.

Customer Service – DSWS received 7,120 incoming calls and 444 follow-up calls were made for quality check. There were 1,466 blue bins delivered and 187 e-mails and blue bins ordered by e-mail requests handled by Customer Service Staff.

Recycling – Mixed paper tonnages for the residential program during the last 52 weeks are as follows:

CURRENT PERIOD	POUNDS PER HOUSEHOLD	CORRESPONDING PERIOD PREVIOUS YEAR
1/21/02-2/15/02	9.01	9.78
2/18/02-3/15/02	9.02	9.41
3/18/02-4/12/02	9.73	9.87
4/15/02-5/10/02	9.81	9.68
5/13/02-6/07/02	9.58	10.19
6/10/02-7/05/02	9.21	9.21
7/08/02-8/02/02	8.74	8.62
8/05/02-8/30/02	9.24	9.10
9/02/02-9/27/02	10.15	10.08
9/30/02-10/25/02	10.45	11.10
10/28/02-11/22/02	11.04	10.83
11/25/02-12/20/02	11.74	11.52
12/23/02-1/17/03	9.75	9.58

Web Site - The following is information gathered from the Montgomery County Solid Waste web site through the month of January 2003:

List Memberships	
HHW Announcements	277
Holiday Reminder List	1,678
Newsletter Helper	40

Usage Counters – January 2003	
Number of Hits	3,460
Number of Page Views	5,640
Among the most frequently visited pages were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recycling • Trash • HHW • Blue Bin Materials 	

E-Mail – January 2003	
Top Issues : Collection Day lookup comments, Paper Recycling, Leaf Vacuuming, Service Issues (Complaints)	89
Blue Bins	346

Comments we received in January included:

- Thank you for your prompt reply. Actually, I don't care to recycle. My question was more aimed at whether or not there are size restrictions for boxes left for trash.
- Thanks for your quick response! My teenage son was taking bets that the County would take weeks to get back to us.

- I'd like to understand why the plastic recycling program is so limited-only bottles with necks. This seems very wasteful, since so many plastic products are recyclable but do not have "necks". The limitation also seems to be unique to Montgomery County –very strange.
- It gives the impression that it may be "simpler" to handle bottles with necks, and that the recycling workers are too lazy with general plastics. I hope this is not the case, but I'd like to see some rationale (i.e., good reason) for the strange limitation. It would be wise for you to post the rationale on the website as well; I cannot be the only one who wonders about this strange constraint.
- Don't know if I have told you guys, but I really do appreciate these notices about what's going on at the solid waste place. I was wondering about Martin Luther (King Day) and my recycle day and in comes your notice.
- I signed up for the Holiday list because I came to this website this morning after the recycle truck came and went and I was angry to find out the Martin Luther King Jr. Day was not a holiday that would cause the schedule to change...so I have a bin full of paper and cardboard and nowhere to put this week's worth of recycle...I would imagine that a regular schedule would be just that-regular. Please let me know via email so I don't miss another recycle pickup. Thank you.
- Just a note of thanks for the "heads up" on all the trash collection schedules. Your service is greatly appreciated and I am glad the County thinks that the Internet is a worth communication tool (I'm a Network Engineer!).
- Hi, just wanted to tell you this site is great and a real public service. I keep it bookmarked and find it helpful and intuitive. I wanted to know what to do with my live Christmas tree last night and in less than 90 seconds I had the answer. I am sure you are both saving money and providing better service through this site. Thanks for keeping it current and making it so easy to use. Keep up the good work. This site really deserves an award! As someone who works full-time in IT, I appreciate and commend good work. Thank you!

Enforcement Actions – Three citations were issued for violations of the County's Solid Waste Laws:

Two citations	Collection without a valid collector's license	\$1000
One citation	Early morning collection	\$500

Ninety-Nine NOV's were issued for violations of the County's Solid Waste Laws:

Eighty-Four NOV's	Collection without a valid collector's license
Three NOV's	Collection without a valid collector's tag
Three NOV's	Operating a collection vehicle in an unsafe condition
Two NOV's	Operating a collection vehicle without a cover
Two NOV's	Left a collection vehicle unattended

Two NOV's	Dump or deposit at other than a acceptance facility
Two NOV's	Not recycling in accordance with regulation 109-92
One NOV	Improperly stored or permitted solid wastes to accumulate

WASTE MINIMIZATION

Computer Recycling – Approximately 39 tons of computers were recycled in January.

Hg-Free Thermometer Campaign – Due to popular demand, the Hg-Free Campaign will continue into spring 2003.

Department of Environmental Protection's Home Composting and Source Reduction Activities – The Green Man Show continues to air daily on Cable Channel 6. A complete schedule for the program is available online at <http://greenmanshow.com>, with a link to the show in simulcast streaming video format.

The Green Man column with recommendations on alternative (resource conserving) landscaping continues in several Maryland editions of The Gazette Newspapers and on the web at both <http://www.gazette.net/columnists/> and <http://greenman.askdep.com>.

Advertising schedule for grasscycling and source reduction campaigns has been developed and will start running in March.

HAZARDOUS WASTE PROGRAMS

Household Hazardous Waste Collection – No collection events were held in January 2003. A schedule is now available for spring 2003.

Small Quantity Generator Ecowise Program – One Small Quantity Generator /Ecowise event was held on January 8, 2003, with nine businesses participating.

AIR PERMITS AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS

Resource Recovery Facility (RRF): CEMS Tracking of RRF Operations – The Continuous Emissions Monitoring System (CEMS) continued to track the percent load, certain engineering parameters and emissions of all three units. All three units were operating until approximately 7 p.m. on January 11th when a spike in the Carbon Monoxide (CO) level for unit 1 occurred. Discussions with Covanta staff indicated that the unit was brought offline because there was not enough waste to run all three units. An examination of the pit confirmed Covanta's explanation. Subsequently, the CEMS recorded emissions and other parameters from units 2 and 3 until approximately 2 a.m. on January 27th when the CEMS started showing emissions from unit 1 indicating that the unit was being brought back online. Thereafter, the CEMS recorded emissions and other

parameters from all three units until the end of the month. There were no equipment malfunctions that affected emissions from the facility in January.

On January 13th Covanta performed the monthly "Opacity Test" for January. The opacity test is a requirement under Title V of the RRF Air Permit. As in past tests, the opacity readings were 0% compared to the Title V Permit limit of 10%.

In the first week of January, the set of four CEMS CD-ROM's was updated to include CEMS data up to December 31, 2002. Copies of the CD's were placed in the Rockville and Poolesville libraries.

FIG-SWAC Air Quality Subcommittee – In January, ENSR submitted the draft report on the "RRF Update of the Multiple Pathway Health Risk Study." The reports were mailed to members of the Air Quality Subcommittee.

The five-year frequency Ambient Air Monitoring Program that commenced on December 10th concluded on January 10th. As per the recommendations of the Subcommittee, dioxins were continuously monitored over a 30-day period. During this period, three 24-hour particulate samples were taken for metals analysis; ENSR sent the air samples to the laboratory for analysis. The laboratory is expected to submit the results to ENSR within 60 days. After receiving the laboratory results, ENSR will take 30 to 40 days to prepare a report. ENSR is expected to submit the draft report to the County before the end of April.

Oaks Landfill Energy Recovery Facility: Leachate Evaporation Technology – For the entire month of January, the leachate evaporator remained shutdown. The ground-flare without leachate evaporation was operated only one day. The backup flare was operating through the remainder of the month.

Contracts and RFP's – The Contract Review Committee approved the extension of ENSR's contract until May 15, 2003, to allow ENSR to complete the report on the Winter Air Monitoring Program.

DSWS staff completed review of the three proposals received in response to a RFP for a replacement contractor for ENSR. Interviews were conducted on January 29th; contractor selection is expected by the middle of February 2003.

An RFP for the Meteorological Monitoring Program was submitted to the Office of Procurement. Procurement is currently reviewing the RFP.

RECYCLING

Public Outreach – The Recycling Task Force met on January 23rd to prepare for the January 28th meeting with the County Executive. The Task Force outlined 23 recommendations in its presentation to Mr. Duncan. Per Mr. Duncan's request, staff has developed an implementation plan for consideration.

Commercial Recycling and Waste Reduction – Staff continued to perform on-site visits of businesses in January and resolved several complaints. Reminder postcards were sent to all large businesses to remind them of the February 1st deadline for filing an annual recycling report. Two businesses were issued NOV's for not recycling the required materials. Both businesses subsequently set-up recycling programs before NOV's were written. Staff identified potential sites for a cooperative collection pilot program in which several businesses with fewer than 15 employees will cooperatively maximize recycling efforts by joining together to contract for recycling collection services.

Multi-Family Recycling – Staff continued to provide daily on-site technical assistance and outreach to multi-family property managers as well as resolved citizen complaints. Work continues on the Multi-Family Property Manager Recycling Seminar scheduled for February 25, 2003. The property manager telephone survey is currently underway. In addition, recruiting has begun for focus group sessions that are scheduled for the last week in February. Annual recycling report forms were mailed to property managers; the deadline for filing is April 1st.

Mixed Paper Recycling – Educational materials continue to be distributed to residents directly and through some grocery stores. Materials include, a flyer, two brochures and a booklet, highlighting the do's and don'ts of mixed paper recycling at the curb, as well as a paper bag printed with the do's and don'ts of mixed paper recycling

Volunteer Activities – In spite of the cold weather, volunteer activity was up during January. Fourteen volunteers provided 54.5 hours of office assistance handling various projects for the different programs. The students were young and very enthusiastic. We had great success with planning in-house activities on the days when school is out. We will coordinate more of these days in the immediate future. Planning for spring time events is in full swing, and our spring time calendar is filling quickly.

PILOT PROGRAMS

Mixed Paper Pilot – The January totals for the Potomac toter program are:

1/2/03	20,920	25.83 lbs. per household
1/8/03	14,260	17.60 lbs. per household
1/15/03	16,160	19.95 lbs. per household
1/22/03	14,420	17.80 lbs. per household
<u>1/29/03</u>	<u>13,500</u>	<u>16.67 lbs. per household</u>
Total	79,260	19.57 lbs. average per household

The current average weight per house for the 69 weeks of the toter program is 20.08 lbs. as opposed to 13.99 lbs. per house prior to the program. This represents a 43.53% increase in the mixed paper capture rate since the start of the toter program.

FACILITY ACTIVITIES

Resource Recovery Facility – Of the 43,389 tons processed in January, 143 tons were reject material from the Compost Facility. Trash deliveries have fallen to the 10,200 ton/week level. In January, boiler #1 was removed from service for 16 days due to reduced MSW flow. For the remainder of the month the facility ran a 3-boiler operation. The only unplanned shutdown was on January 1st. Boiler #1 experienced a minor control problem that required the boiler to come down for two hours to correct the problem.

There were no significant safety incidents during the month. The facility continues to operate with no OSHA recordable accidents in over 1030 days.

There were no generation emergencies issued by Mirant during the month of January; no power was purchased during the month.

There were no reportable air or water quality environmental excursions during the month of January.

The following environmental activities occurred:

- Submitted the 4th Quarter 2002 CEMS report to MDE.
- Submitted the 2002 Annual Sewage Sludge Generators Report to MDE.
- Submitted the 4th Quarter 2002 NPDES report to MDE.
- Submitted the Generator Waste Profile sheet for incinerator ash disposal to Brunswick Waste Management.
- Submitted the December 2002 Potable Water Monthly Operating Report to MDE.
- Submitted the 1st Quarter 2003 Bacteriological Monitoring Report to MDE.
- Thomas MacCubbin, MDE Solid Waste Program, performed a routine inspection of the facility on January 27th; no issues of concern were noted.
- The monthly visible emission (Method 9) observation required by the RRF's Title V Permit was performed on January 13th.
- Submitted a spill report regarding a spill on December 24, 2002, to MDE.
- Syl Ebron, CEMS technician, submitted updated CD's to the County that included data for December 2002.

Materials Recovery Facility – Approximately 2,041 tons of commingled material were shipped out, and approximately 5,268 tons of mixed paper were loaded out and transferred to the Office Paper Systems processing facility.

Damaged building panels were replaced. The plant operations manager's position was filled.

DSWS met with the installer of the new processing equipment to review punch list items.

Oaks Landfill – SCS Engineers incorporated County comments into planned improvements to the landfill gas control system.

DSWS continued to review bids submitted in response to an IFB for subdividing the leachate storage lagoons to facilitate long-term maintenance. A recommendation for award was forwarded to the Office of Procurement.

Gude Landfill – No activities this month.

Transfer Station – During January, Covanta shipped via rail 47,117 tons of processible waste from the Transfer Station to the RRF; 838 more tons than shipped in January 2002.

Litter was collected by MES along Shady Grove Road from Route 355 to the intersection with Muncaster Mill Road.

The Transfer Station continued to receive leaves from the leaf vacuuming collection program. Due to inclement winter weather, this program will continue on a limited basis into next month.

The radiation detectors had 12 alarms in January 2003, including 3 false alarms (alarms that could not be re-verified); all of the valid alarms were identified as medical isotopes with short half-lives, including some cases where the driver had undergone recent medical treatment. All loads of waste were accepted.

Site 2 Landfill Properties – The lease for the Chiswell property is at the County Attorney's Office for review.

On January 13, 2003, a draft Site 2 landfill permit was received from MDE for review and comment.

Yard Trim Compost Facility – In January, the Yard Trim Facility received 6,518 tons of leaves for composting; 5,797 tons more than January 2002. The facility has received 50,454 tons of material through January this year compared to 43,779 tons through January 2002. The increase resulted from material being wet resulting in collecting leaves with a loader rather than vacuuming. We are projecting 72,000 tons of material this fiscal year.

Staff is working on a contingency plan to identify other facilities to accept the material in the event that we hit 77,000 tons in a fiscal year. We will issue a Request for Expression of Interest or other form of solicitation when we receive 70,000 tons. When we receive 74,000 tons in any subsequent fiscal year, we will award a contract with a facility to reserve capacity for yard-trim.

One hundred forty-three (143) tons of debris was sent to the RRF.

Two thousand seven hundred thirty (2,730) cubic yards of Leafgro were shipped to distributors.

Bagging Operation – In January, 10,600 bags of Leafgro were shipped to distributors (each bag is 1.5 cubic ft. weighing 45 lbs).

Fire Hydrant Installation – A contract has been awarded to W.F. Wilson. Two meetings, a pre-construction meeting and a meeting with SCA, will be held in mid-January. Work will commence at the end of February, weather permitting.

Linden Farm Renovations – Renovation work is complete, including painting of the barns and silos. Roof repair work on the Gothic Barn has been delayed due to inclement weather.

Out-of-County Haul

Brunswick County, Virginia - In January, approximately 12,191 tons of ash residue and approximately 3,061 tons of nonprocessable waste were transported to the County's dedicated disposal cell at the Brunswick Waste Management Facility, Inc. Landfill in Brunswick County, Virginia. About 80 tons of rubble were recycled this month at Clean Earth in Hagerstown, MD. Five additional chassis were ordered to pair with the five new containers on order; these will minimize future equipment shortages during peak periods of nonprocessable waste generation.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Important Telephone Numbers

General information on solid waste	240-777-6400
Customer Service	240-777-6410
Transfer Station	301-840-2370 (County Office) 301-590-1032 (Covanta)
Materials Recovery Facility	301-840-2701 (County Office) 301-417-1447 (MES)
Resource Recovery Facility	240-777-6494 (County Office) 301-916-3031 (Covanta)
Yard Trim Compost Facility	301-428-8185 (MES)
Internet for DSWS	www.mcrecycles.org

Note: All comments, questions, and suggestions on the contents of this report should be addressed to:

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SOLID WASTE FACTS IN A NUTSHELL

TOPIC OR FACILITY	
Latest Recycling Rate Reported in Montgomery County	37.2% (FY01)
Recycling Goal	45% by December 2002 50% by December 2004
Resource Recovery Facility (RRF)	Guaranteed Capacity = 85% of 1800 TPD on an annual basis (558,450 tons/yr).
Yard Trim Composting Facility (DCF)	Operations limited to receipt of 77,000 tons/year under Sugarloaf Settlement Agreement. FY02 tons received- 63,634
# Residences receiving trash collection by County contractors	84,959
# Residences receiving collection of recyclables in blue bins and yard waste collection	202,411
Term of out-of-county waste transportation and disposal contract with Brunswick Waste Management Facility, Inc.	June 19, 1997 through June 30, 2012 with an option for a five-year renewal. (Service started on October 20, 1997.)

GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS

AAR	American Ash Recycling, Inc.
APC	Air Pollution Control
ASME	American Society of Mechanical Engineers
BFI	Browning Ferris Industries
CDL	Commercial Driver's License
CEMS	Continuous Emissions Monitoring System
CFR	Code of Federal Regulation
CIP	Capital Improvements Program
COG	Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
CSX	Chesapeake Transportation Systems
DEP	Department of Environmental Protection
DFS	Division of Facilities and Services
DNR	Maryland Department of Natural Resources
DSWS	Division of Solid Waste Services
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
FIG	Facilities Implementation Group
GFA	Gross Floor Area
HCFA	Health Care Financing Administration
HHW	Household Hazardous Waste
IFB	Invitation For Bid
IPM	Integrated Pest Management
LFG	Landfill Gas
LTTS	Leachate Thermal Treatment System
MCPS	Montgomery County Public Schools
MCR	Maximum Continuous Rating
MDE	Maryland Department of Environment
MES	Maryland Environmental Service
Mg/l	Milligrams per liter
M-NCPPC	Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission
MRF	Materials Recovery Facility
MWh	Mega Watt hours
NEA	Northeast Maryland Waste Disposal Authority
NOV	Notice of Violation
NPDES	National Pollution Discharge Elimination System
NTP	Notice to Proceed
OLAC	Oaks Landfill Advisory Commission
OMB	Office of Management and Budget
OPS	Office Paper Systems
PEPCO	Potomac Electric Power Company
PSA	Public Service Announcement
RFP	Request for Proposal
ROL	Reduced Operating Level
RRF	Resource Recovery Facility
SCA	Sugarloaf Citizens Association
SHA	State Highway Administration
SORRT	Smart Organizations Reduce and Recycle Tons
SDAT	State Department of Assessments and Taxation
SWAC	Solid Waste Advisory Committee
TXA170	Computer Interface Program
TCLP	Toxic Characteristic Leaching Procedure
TPD	Tons Per Day
TRRAC	Think Reduce and Recycle at Apartments and Condominiums
UT	Ultra-sonic Testing
WM	Waste Management